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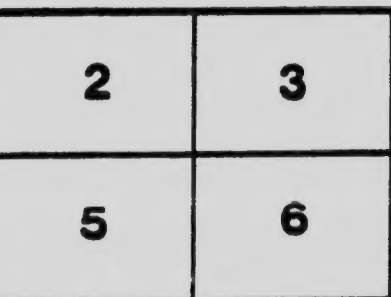
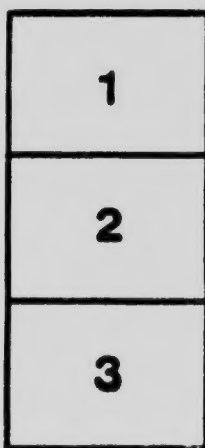
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How to Form a Canadian Club

BY

CHARLES R. McCULLOUGH, F. R. C. I.,

HONOURARY PRESIDENT

OF THE

ASSOCIATION OF CANADIAN CLUBS

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SUGGESTIONS.

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1. Read the synopsis of the beginning of the Canadian Club Movement.
2. (a) Ask four or five of the representative young men of the community to meet you in your office, your home or other suitable place, and put before them the advantages likely to accrue through the organization of a local club. If convenient lunch or dine together.
(b) Draft a circular letter to be printed and mailed to all the men of the community whose membership would strengthen the proposed club.
(c) Make a list of those to whom these circular letters are to be mailed.
(d) Name a Provisional Committee and Chairman and Honorary Secretary of same. The circular letter will be sent out in the name of this committee.
(e) Draw up a resolution, somewhat along the lines of that contained in the synopsis referred to, for presentation at proposed meeting. Also review a copy of the constitution of some club.
3. (a) The provisional chairman will call the meeting to order, and ask for nominations for chairman and secretary of the meeting.
(b) The chairman so appointed will either explain, or call upon someone present to do so, the object of the meeting.
(c) A formal resolution to organize a Canadian Club will be offered.
(d) The chairman at this point might call upon the secretary to read a draft constitution for the new club. This may be adopted seriatim or in whole.
(e) The election of permanent officers will be proceeded with.
(f) Ask the Executive Committee to arrange for a Club Luncheon at earliest convenience to which invite a good speaker from out of town to deliver the inaugural address.
(g) Instruct the committee to communicate with the Honourary Secretary of the Association of Canadian Clubs with regard to affiliating with that body.
4. Let the meetings of the Executive Committee be at a time that will not demand the sacrifice of any man's evening.
5. Do not, unless absolutely necessary to secure "luncheon" quarters, use your funds in fitting up "club rooms."
6. Do not lay out too elaborate a programme for your season's work. Multiplication of engagements is to be avoided.
7. Do not endeavour to hold too frequent "luncheons." While no fees are ever paid to Canadian Club speakers, yet their travelling and hotel expenses must be defrayed out of club income. Study the local conditions and meet them by holding monthly, fortnightly, or weekly "luncheons." The hour should be well chosen. Some clubs in the larger centres meet at noon for a modest luncheon and take from an hour to an hour and fifteen minutes to lunch and listen. Others meet at a quarter after six in the evening and conclude the meeting at eight. In some places arrangements cannot be made for an earlier "luncheon" than eight o'clock at night. Let the fare be simple and the charge for same as light as possible. Shun the elaborate in courses. The speaker usually prefers ample time to prodigality in fare.
8. Some man or men in the club will have to make sacrifices to carry on the work of the club if the organization is to be successful. From the experience of many club workers throughout Canada it would appear to be worth while to engage in promoting a movement that makes for enlightened citizenship.
9. Bear in mind the function of the Canadian Club---to instruct. Therefore, in selecting speakers use judgment. Avoid permitting the freedom of your floor to those who might bring discredit upon your club. It is well too to keep the range of subjects within the scope of the club. Discursiveness will serve no good end.
10. Avoid passing "resolutions" and do not engage in the raising of subscriptions as a general principle.
11. Ban party politics, sectarian controversy and racial discussions. Let there be a practical unity of purpose on the broad platform of a common country and a common king.

THE CANADIAN CLUB MOVEMENT.

(From Annual Proceedings, Association of Canadian Clubs, Sept. 1912)

December sixth will mark the twentieth anniversary of the projection of the Canadian Club, for it was on the evening of the sixth of December in the year 1892 that six young men met on the invitation of Charles R. McCullough in his office in the Commercial Centre Building in Hamilton, Ontario, to consider ways and means of establishing a society that would interest young men and develop them as Canadian citizens. At this little meeting there were assembled James Ferres, Chairman; Charles R. McCullough, Secretary; W. Sanford Evans, Henry Carpenter, George D. Fearman and John T. Hall. It was proposed by one of these gentlemen that an association be established on Mock Parliament lines; another that it conform to Debating Club rules, etc. Finally the acting secretary suggested that the central idea of the proposed association be Love of Country and about this would gather all the other advantages attaching to literary and debating organizations. There and then the Canadian Club had its birth.

The little band of founders immediately proceeded to draft a letter inviting their fellow townsmen to assemble later for the purpose of discussing the matter and of furthering the project in view. By February first, 1893, such progress had been made that a representative gathering met in the rooms of the Hamilton Association in the Public Library Building, when the following resolution was introduced by Mr. McCullough, seconded by Mr. Evans, and carried with enthusiasm:

"Recognizing the deep importance to Canada of the cultivation of a spirit of patriotism in the hearts of her people (and particularly of the young men upon whom will rest the duties of the future), and in view of the fact that only under the stimulus of an active patriotism has any nation become great, it is, in the opinion of this meeting, a fit and proper time to take definite steps, however humble, to deepen and widen the regard of Canadians for the land of their birth or adoption, and to increase their interest in matters affecting the welfare of their country. Be it therefore resolved that this meeting proceed to the organization of a society to be known as The Canadian Club, having for its object the encouragement of the study of the history, literature and resources of Canada, the recognition of native worth and talent and the fostering of a patriotic Canadian sentiment.

Be it further resolved that the membership shall be open to all Canadians who may be in sympathy with the patriotic and educative aims of the society, apart from any designs of political partizanship."

It was hopefully stated that such clubs might be extended to all parts of Canada.

At a subsequent meeting, February 15th, a constitution was adopted and officers elected. Mr. Evans was chosen for President and Mr. McCullough for Honorary Secretary.

The first gathering around the table was on the evening of March the 23rd following, when Mr. Byron E. (now Sir Edmund) Walker was the speaker to the toast of Canada. Great enthusiasm was shown by the assembly.

The Toronto Globe of that distant day said:

"The revival of the national sentiment is again becoming popular as evidenced by the successful dinner given by the new Canadian Club at Hamilton. The time has now come when many of these clubs ought to be organized all over the Dominion, making the national idea paramount in the hearts of the young men, killing in the bud any attempt to foster on our soil old country feuds of racial, religious or other origin."

Messrs. McCullough, Evans and Kirwan Martin visited Toronto shortly after the Hamilton Club had gotten on its feet and proposed to several gentlemen at a meeting in the Rossin House that the idea be taken up in the Queen City.

It was not until 1897 that Toronto took hold of the idea and established its club through the work chiefly of Mr. Evans and Mr. John A. Cooper, its first President.

Galt fell in line shortly after and a regular succession of clubs then followed.

To-day there are nearly one hundred of these "Universities of the People," as the Rt. Hon. James Bryce terms them, in the several Provinces of the Dominion, and a score or more in the neighboring Republic, and it is altogether probable that the founder's wish may be realized within a few years—that of seeing every self-governing portion of the Empire with its national club, and, finally, of these uniting in a great Imperial council of clubs called together periodically to discuss questions that have not reached the contentious arena of party politics.



